

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

In the aftermath of the 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, the Library of Congress began collecting, preserving, and making available to Congress and the nation numerous photographs, newspapers, posters, comic books, maps, and audiotaped interviews documenting this cataclysmic event.

The following are selected images from the assemblage that appeared in the Library's commemorative exhibition titled *Witness and Response: September 11 Acquisitions at the Library of Congress*.



*This panoramic view of lower Manhattan and the World Trade Center
was taken from a helicopter just one month before September 11, 2001.
(Photo by Carol M. Highsmith)*



*The terrorist attack on the World Trade Center
on September 11, 2001, changed the worldview of Americans.
(Photo by Tamara Beckwith)*



Photographer Steven Hirsch's "Golgotha" for the New York Post captures the enormity of the carnage at the World Trade Center as firefighters, who appear tiny, survey the wreckage. (Photo by Steven Hirsch)



People evacuate lower Manhattan amid the dust and debris of the World Trade Center's collapse. (Photo by Mary Altaffer)



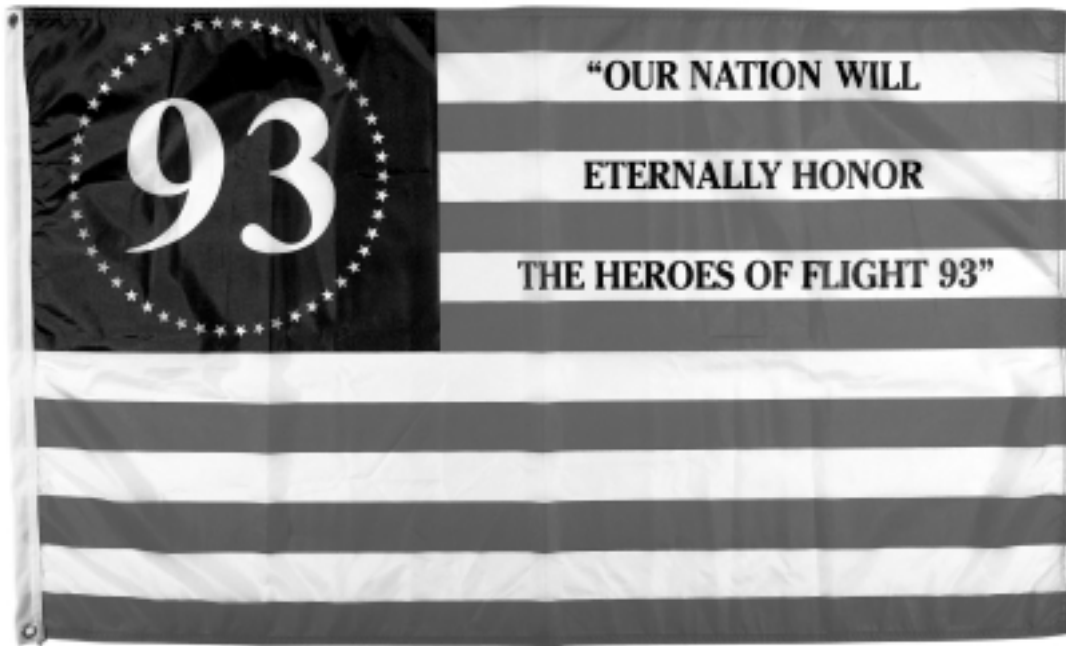
Firefighters and other emergency workers pause to regroup from their search for survivors in the wreckage. (Photo by William C. Lopez)



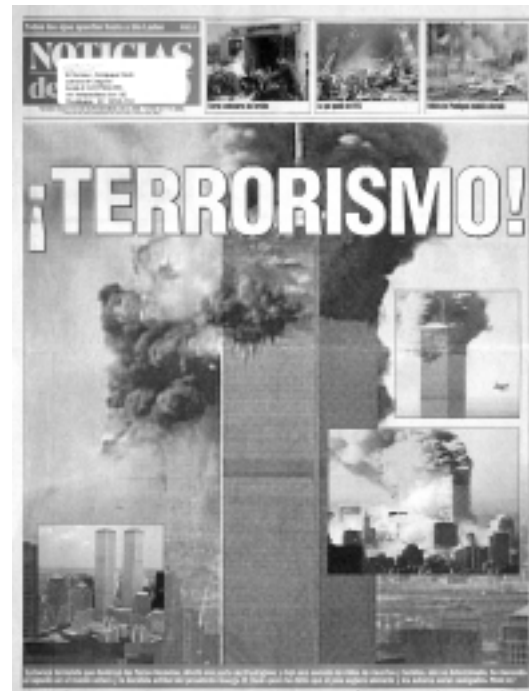
The Pentagon burns after being hit by a hijacked airliner. (Photo by Daryl Donley)



*An aerial view shows the damaged Pentagon building.
(U.S. government photo)*



This modified American flag flew over the site near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, where United Airlines Flight 93 crashed after being hijacked. Passengers in the airplane attempted to seize control of the jet from the terrorists.



The press reacted to the 9/11 attacks in many languages, including Spanish and Arabic.



A Pakistani poster from October 2001 displays the caption, “Hundreds of Osamas will emerge from every drop of my blood.” This item was collected by staff members in the Library’s overseas acquisitions office in Islamabad.



Titled (in translation) Battles of the Lion Den of the Arab Partisans in Afghanistan, this 93-page book by Osama bin Laden was found in the Library’s Arabic collection and was translated by an Arab World area specialist.



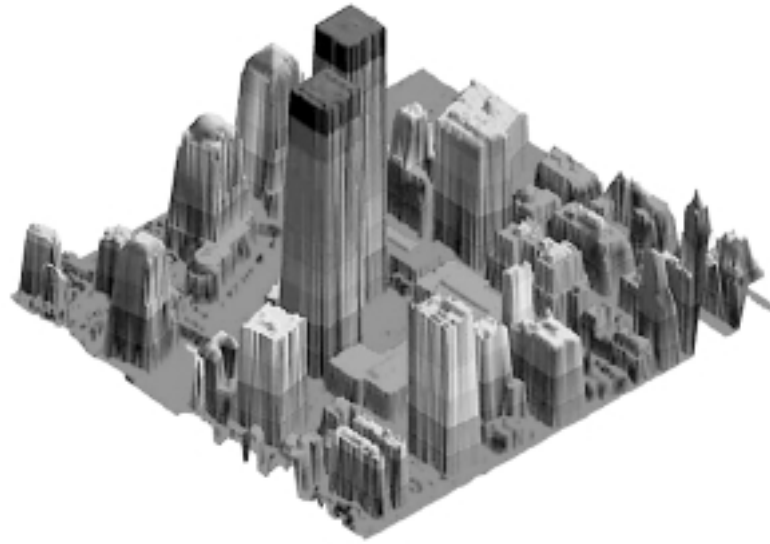
Items from the Library's collections that were part of the Witness and Response exhibition included periodicals from around the world. (Photo by Rachel Evans)



Harry Katz and Ford Peatross (left to right) of the Prints and Photographs Division unload a 400-pound beam salvaged from the wreckage of the World Trade Center and delivered to the Library's loading dock for display. (Photo by Rachel Evans)



This small selection from the hundreds of post-9/11 interviews collected by the American Folklife Center was included in the Witness and Response exhibition. (Photo by James Hardin)



The Library's Geography and Map Division collected these LIDAR (light detection and ranging) three-dimensional models that were made of the World Trade Center site as of July 2001 (above) and September 15, 2001 (below). (© 2001. Images by New York State Office for Technology and EarthData International)

